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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5051  
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/39ABG INCIRLIK AB TU PRIORITY  
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RHMFISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J-3/J-5// PRIORITY  
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RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:PDUSDP/ISA:EUR/ISA:NESA/DSCA// PRIORITY  
RUEHAK/USDAO ANKARA TU PRIORITY

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SUBJECT: TURKEY/IRAQ: MFA STATEMENT ON IRAQ POLITICAL  
DEVELOPMENTS

The Turkish Foreign Ministry issued the following statement  
April 23 in response to recent political developments in  
Iraq. Informal Embassy translation follows.

Begin Text:

We welcome the election of a President and Speaker of  
Parliament, and the designation of a new Prime Minister to  
form a government in Iraq, thereby overcoming the blockage  
concerning who would form the new government following the  
December 15, 2005 elections in Iraq. We hope that these  
designations, which show that the political transition  
process has entered its next phase, will be for the good of  
our neighbors the people of Iraq.

There are serious problems in need of solution confronting  
the new government and parliament in Iraq. We hope a broadly  
based government of national consensus, which can handle  
these problems with full capability and which can establish  
the security and stability needed in the country, will be  
quickly established.

With this understanding, Turkey will continue to provide the  
strong support it has been giving to the political process  
since the beginning. We assess that an Iraq which preserves  
its political unity and territorial integrity, and which is  
in peace with its neighbors, is an indispensable element for  
the stability of the region.

As we have done to the present, we will stay close to the  
friendly and brotherly Iraqi people and we will continue our  
cooperation with the Iraqi administration.

End text.

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